

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
NATCHITOCHEES LEVEE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT
July 14, 2015
7:00 p.m.**

BE IT KNOWN that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Natchitoches Levee and Drainage District was called in the Police Jury Meeting Room, Natchitoches Parish Courthouse, Natchitoches, Louisiana, on July 14, 2015, with a quorum being present, and roll was called as follows, to-wit:

Board Members present were:

Karlton Methvin, President/Administrator
Janet Jones, Secretary
Doris Rogé, Member
Billy Giddens, Member
Terry Sklar, Member
Mark Swafford, Member
Rayburn Smith, Member
Charles Brazzel, Jr., Member

Absent were:

None.

Also present were:

Brad Sticker, DOTD Engineer
Billy Dunn, Foreman
Alan Shephard, Edko

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Natchitoches Levee & Drainage District was called to order at 7:00 p.m by the President, Karlton Methvin.

A Motion was made by Doris Rogé and seconded by Terry Sklar to amend the agenda by adding the approval of those unusual expenses incurred during June and July related to flood prevention. Following public comment, this motion passed unanimously.

The minutes of the June, 2015 meeting were read and discussed. Following public comments, a Motion was made by Janet

Jones and seconded by Doris Rogé, to approve the June, 2015 minutes. The Motion passed unanimously.

The June, 2015 financial statement was reviewed and discussed. Following public comment, a Motion was made by Terry Sklar and seconded by Janis Jones to approve the June, 2015 financial statement. This Motion passed unanimously.

The maintenance report was given by the Maintenance Superintendent, Billy Dunn. Mr. Dunn advised that the crew was back to regular maintenance. They are currently working across the river on the Campti-Clarence side cutting grass. Mr. Hargis is also hauling dirt and we are using our own equipment to spread the dirt on top of the levees to patch the holes.

The crew is working six days a week now to make sure the levees are ready for inspection by the Corps of Engineers in August. Some of the areas will be cut twice before the inspection. The inspection is presently scheduled for August 24 and 25.

Mr. Dunn further advised the Board that the crew was also taking out the dams which had been put in during the flood. Everything is open now except for the Hampton flood gates. We will not be able to open those gates until the river gets to pool stage.

Rayburn Smith inquired as to what we were going to do with the Chivary Dam. Brad Sticker informed the Board they would inspect the Chivary Dam, as well as the dam at the end of Williams, and also the pipe at Highway 486 to determine what repairs were necessary. They will not be able to inspect Chivary until the water reaches pool stage.

Mr. Brad Sticker, DOTD Engineer, reported that the contract for replacement of the pipes under Highway 495 at Cloutierville at been let. They have held the pre-construction meeting and will begin actual construction soon. Mr. Sticker delivered a letter from Mr. Jonathan Lachney with DOTD which included an invoice in the amount of \$88,918.90. This represents 10% of the contract price for the repairs to Highway 495 which the Board previously authorized payment of.

Mr. Sticker also advised of Mr. Doug Taylor's new position with DOTD. He has discussed with Doug the Powhatan levee. There

is a limited amount that we can do. We need to minimize the water coming through the railroad and around the levee.

With regards to the Campti levee he advised that he is going to have the DOTD survey crew prepare a better map showing cross sections over the top of the levee. The levee we built during the flood will not be approved by the Corps of Engineers during its inspection because the material used will not meet FEMA requirements.

There was discussion regarding the cleaning of L-20. Mr. Sticker reviewed the letter received from the Corps of Engineers wherein they declared the southern end subject to the wetlands act. Following further discussion regarding what could and could not be done with the channel, Mr. Sticker advised that he would talk with the Corps of Engineers and seek further clarification.

The Board then discussed the gap closure of the KCS Railroad. Corkern suggested that he write a letter to KCS requesting their financial help in making repairs to the gate. At the present time our plan for closure involves moving stored dirt and creating an urban dam. It will take several days to build the dam and then several days to tear the dam out, during which time the railroad could not run. Because of the economic impact this would have on the railroad, it is possible KCS might assist in repairing the gate so that it could be opened and closed in a matter of hours, as opposed to days.

In other discussion, Doris Rogé advised that she had received several compliments from people in the Cloutierville regarding the work done by Levee Board personnel to prevent further flooding. All of the Board was complimentary of Billy Dunn and his crew. They each worked tirelessly for an extended period of time.

A Motion was made by Terry Sklar and seconded by Billy Giddens to approve and ratify the action taken by the President, Karlton Methvin, when authorizing the rental of pumps, building of levees and other expenses associated with the Red River flood event. Following discussion this Motion passed unanimoously.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a Motion was made by Janet Jones and seconded by Doris Rogé to adjourn. The Board verbally voted unanimously in favor of the Motion.

Approved on the 11th day of August, 2015, at Natchitoches,
Louisiana, at a regularly held meeting.

RONALD E. CORKERN, JR.,
Attorney/Assistant Secretary